10. Special Reference No. 1 of 1991

Reg: The Cauvery Water Disputes between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Date of Reference : 27.7.1991

Date of Order : 22.11.1991

Time Taken : 3 months and 26 days.

11. Special Reference No. 1 of 1993

Reg: "Whether a Hindu temple or any Hindu religious structure existed prior to the construction of the Ram Janma Bhumi — Babri Masjid (including the premises of the inner and outer courtyards of such structure) in the area on which the structure stood?"

Date of Reference : 7.1.1993

The hearing is in progress

Lawyers strike

3187. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned Vakilon ko harthal ke hak nahin — Allahabad High Court appearing in the Janasatta dated 26th July, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government thereon to check the advocates going on strike frequently especially in lower courts;

(d) whether the judges of subordinate courts of Delhi have been found indulging in unethical practices in the past and some action taken against them;

(e) if so, the number of judges dismissed/ termminated/suspended, giving the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the condition/situation in the subordinate courts has improved;

(g) the number of cases pending in the lower courts in Delhi and since when; and

(h) the steps taken to finalise the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A resolution adopted by the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices in their meeting held in December, 1993 recommended the constitution of committees of lawyers and judges at the appropriate levels to go into problems concerning lawyers' strike and evolve appropriate guidelines for preventing indiscriminate closure of courts. Copies of this Resolution have been forwarded to the Supreme Court, all High Courts and to the Bar Council of India for taking necessary follow-up action.

(d) to (f) An officer of Delhi Higher Judicial Service then working as Chief Metropolitan Magistrate was dismissed from service on 7.8.1987 and another officer of Delhi Judicial Service then working as Metropolitan Magistrate was removed from service on 16.12.1988, as a result of departmental enquiries held in their cases. Presently, three officers of Delhi Judicial Service are under suspension. Against two of them, cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act have been instituted in Courts and in respect of the third Officer, a departmental enquiry is going on.

(g) and (h) The number of cases pending in the lower courts as on 1.6.1993 is as under:-

District/Addl. District and Sessions Judges.	47,078 (Civil cases:30604) (Criminal cases: 16474)
Chief/Addl. Chief/. Metropolitan Magistrates	3,33,620
Sr./Sub-Judges' Courts.	76,093
Rent/Addl. Rent Controllers' Courts	21,363

Statement

List Showing the Pending Cases (Year-Wise) as on 1-6-1993

Year	District/Addl. Distt. Judges	Sessions/Addl. Sessions Judges	Chief/Addl. Chief/ Metropolitan Magistrates	Senior/Sub-ordinate judges	Rent/Addl. Rent Controllers Delhi
1993	5679	2304	55996	8805	2923
1992	8645	4293	83202	16510	4624
1991	6706	4084	68428	11178	2786
1990	4521	2550	52391	8395	2408
1989	1934	1178	33747	7863	2118
1988	1166	904	8682	6513	1407
1987	584	652	7642	5565	1385
1986	453	360	7704	3581	968
1985	319	79	5390	2601	642
1984	256	48	2967	441	550
1983	104	16	3087	1340	432
1982	69	2	1979	869	370
1981	43	3	1870	323	248
1980	53	—	315	349	192
1979	23	1	88	357	135
1978	15	—	59	307	52
1977	8	—	24	180	36
1976	8	—	25	201	36
1975	2	—	7	93	5
1974	3	—	2	80	2
1973	2	—	2	42	21
1972	4	—	1	307	11
1971	2	—	6	29	7
1970	4	—	2	132	2
1969	1	—	2	12	3
1968	—	—	2	7	—
1967	—	—	—	9	—
1966	—	—	—	3	—
1965	—	—	—	1	—
1964	—	—	—	—	—
	30604	16474	333620	76093	21383

The period since when these cases are pending is mentioned in the enclosed statement (see below). Instructions are issued from time to time to the Presiding Officers to dispose of old cases expeditiously.

Legislation on electoral reforms

3188. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held any discussions with various political parties with regard to the bringing forward of a package of electroal reforms, if so, the details of the talks held and outcome thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when Government propose to bring forward a legislation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):